

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Page 6, please replace the first full paragraph with the following amended paragraph:**

The processing device 1 according to the invention is intended to supply alarms to an NMS (standing for “Network Management System”) manager 2 in a communications network, for example of the Internet type. In the example illustrated ~~in the single figure 1~~, this device 1 is located in the NMS manager 2 but could be located in an external box coupled to the said NMS manager.